



# ***HUNTING TRAILS***

## ***CARTRIDGES & ARROWS***



*Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's  
Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Programs*

*Volume 1, Issue 11*

*"Over 1 Million Served"*

*May - August 2011*

## **2010 Missouri State Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year Award Winners**



Winners pictured left to right; MDC Staff Andy Rhodes, Bowhunter Education Randall Vandegrift, Hunter Education Barry Cagle, and Conservation Agent Willie Carr.

At its January 28, 2011 monthly meeting the Missouri Conservation Commission publicly recognized the 2010 Missouri State Hunter/Bowhunter Instructor of the Year Award winners. Commission Chair, Becky Plattner presented each award winner with a special plaque and framed print in recognition of their achievement and selection from over 1,600 instructors statewide. The evening before the award winners attended a dinner in their honor, allowing the

### **In This Issue**

2010 Award Winners	1-3	Ozark Region	9	Henges Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	14
Coordinator's Corner	3	Pulaski County Firearms Kit	9-10	Dalton Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	14-15
Highschool Trap Funding	4	Southeast Region	10	Parma Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	15-16
MHEIA Grand Success	4	Northwest Region	11	Lake City Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	16
MHHF news	5	Kansas City Region, Metro Dist.	11-12	Course Scheduling and Cancellations	16-17
The Question of Hunting Ethics	6-7	KC Region, Sedalia/Clinton Dist.	12	Developmental Disability Exemption	17-18
Central Region	7	St. Louis Region	12	Updated HE Materials for July 1	18
HE Students Get Surprise	8	St. Louis HE Volunteer Awards	13	MDC Event Manager Implementation	18-19
Northeast Region	8	Southwest Region	13-14	Welcome New Instructors	19
		Busch Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	14		

Commissioners and MDC leadership a chance to congratulate them personally, plus time for some camaraderie and good food. Winners were provided a room at the Capital Plaza Hotel to enjoy the whole experience of the dinner, Commission Meeting and winning these prestigious awards.

***MDC Staff Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year, Mr. Andy Rhodes – Southwest Region***

Andrew became a certified Hunter Education Instructor in 2001 and Bowhunter Education Instructor in 2008. During 2010, he spent 76 hours teaching seven classes that trained 163 students, one of those being an online field day. Andrew serves as the site facilitator for all the hunter and bowhunter education classes held at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center. Those duties include handling registration, coordinating 20 volunteers, ordering supplies and teaching classes. Andrew also uses the Court Alternative Sentencing Program (CASP) workers to prepare the classroom, organize class materials and clean up. He introduced the scanner used for scoring tests and trained the volunteer instructors on its use.

Andrew not only helped facilitate one student and instructor bowhunter education class, he also maintains two archery ranges at Dalton range, one a static range with 12 targets and a walk through 3-D range with 16 targets. To help with archery instruction, he completed the Basic Archery Instructor course and helped schools to schedule programs at the range, where he provided instruction and archery range supervision.

Andrew has assisted with other hunter and bowhunter education support outside of the classroom. He has helped the Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF), a cooperative effort between Springfield Public Schools and Bass Pro Shop by teaching water quality testing, primitive skills, firearms safety and hunting. Additionally, he has helped with public programs and special events at the range, such as Day at the Range (an event for people with disabilities), deer and turkey hunts, Effective Wingshooting for Hunters, and deer rifle sight in days. Andrew is NRA Instructor certified in Home Firearms Safety, Basic Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun, and Basic Muzzleloading Pistol, Rifle and Shotgun.

Andrew helps his family with their beef and hay farm near Willard, while also enjoying time with his wife Crystal. He is a lifelong outdoorsman who takes every opportunity to serve as a role model and mentor to young people who want to learn about hunting and the outdoors in a safe, responsible manner.

***Volunteer Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year Mr. Randall Vandegrift – Southwest Region***

Randall has been an active bowhunter education instructor since 2009 and a hunter education instructor since 2001. During 2010, Randall spent 28 hours teaching five

bowhunter education classes that trained 104 students. Eight of those hours were spent assisting with the largest bowhunter education class conducted in the region (23 students) in July of 2010. Randall works well with other instructors, is always on time, and approaches his classes with a professional demeanor.

Mr. Vandegrift continues to stay active with the hunter education classes as well, assisting with three hunter education classes and an online field day in 2010 that trained a total of 81 students.

Classroom instruction however, is not the only support Randall gives to the bowhunter education and hunter education program. He has assisted with many programs held at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center. Among them are: 26 hours each at a turkey hunt and muzzleloader hunt for people with disabilities, where Randall helped with transportation, guiding and clean up; over 130 hours at Great Outdoors Day, teaching the muzzleloader portion and personally preparing 84 turkey wing bone calls. This was no small feat, as he had to clean the birds, clean and boil the bones, cut the bones and then help the participants make their calls. He did manage to enjoy the fruit of his labor by attending the Christmas banquet held at the range. He is a knowledgeable and ethical hunter who uses good examples and techniques when teaching.

Randall enjoys living in rural Missouri, raising 13,000 + turkeys for a major poultry supplier/grower. Throughout both his personal and professional career, he has continued to support the mission of MDC by helping us accomplish the goals set forth in the Next Generation of Conservation.

***Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the Year Mr. Barry Cagle – St. Louis Region***

Barry has been a volunteer hunter education instructor in the St. Louis region since 2006. During the 2010 year, he taught 14 classes that certified 352 students, spending a total of 250 hours in the classroom. Of those, Barry taught two classes during the fall semester at St. Charles West High School as part of their outdoor education program. He also helped organize and conduct the Hunter Education Day Camp at the August A. Busch Conservation Area. This popular day camp is held over a five-day period and includes many hands-on activities, such as archery, .22rifle and muzzleloader shooting. The long hours and attention to detail that Barry demonstrated attributed to its success.

Classroom support is not the only contribution Barry has given to the hunter education program. For the past several years, he has volunteered his time to help with the MDC sponsored Missouri Trapshooting Associations State High School Trap Shoot held at Linn Creek every spring. He assisted shooters on the firing line during the Outdoor Expo at the August A. Busch Shooting and Outdoor Education Center and helped teach many public programs that the range

offered. These include reloading, sausage making, venison cooking and youth hunts.

Barry's dedication to hunter education and the shooting sports carries into the community as well. He is a NRA certified handgun instructor who offers Conceal Carry classes for those wishing to obtain their Missouri permit. This past year he taught eight such classes at the St. Charles Police Department. Barry is also a range volunteer for the August A. Busch Shooting Range, accumulating over 400 hours as a range officer.

Barry became certified as a Bowhunter Education Instructor in 2010. We are sure we can expect an equal amount of enthusiasm and dedication given toward this program in the years to come.

### ***Conservation Agent Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year***

#### ***Agent Willie Carr – Southwest Region***

Agent Carr has been a Hunter Education Instructor since 2004 and Bowhunter Education Instructor since 2005. In 2010, Willie attended 35 out of the 36 classes offered in Jasper County, helping to train 644 students in hunter education. He is the sole contact for Jasper County's 50 volunteer hunter education instructors, helping them with supplies and/or assistance with their classes.

His support of the hunter education has not been limited to the classroom. Willie took the MOST trailer (Missouri Outdoor Skills Trailer) to area schools, safety fairs, city fairs and other special events in Jasper, Lawrence and Barton counties where he taught air rifle and archery to students and the general public. Other events Agent Carr gave his support to included: teaching archery to a Jasper County Girl Scout troop; helping with the Shawnee Trail youth dove clinic and hunt; staffing the Operation Game Thief trailer at the Lamar fair and Apple Making Days in Mt. Vernon. Willie also helped with the Wounded Warrior event, where wounded veterans were taken out to deer hunt with cooperating landowners. The area agents then provided a wild game meal for the participants.

Agent Carr is also very active in community activities. Using donations from Wal-Mart, he helped with Webb City's "Shop with a Hero" program, where children from needing families were taken to buy presents for their family. He also helped with Lamar's "Fish with a Cop" program and worked with the MSU internship program by supervising students who wanted to gain experience in wildlife related fields; conducted or assisted with 16 fishing clinics, one of which was for 35 special needs kids, manned exhibits at seven local fairs and was featured on ten TV interviews.

Willie's enthusiasm is inspiring; by consistently demonstrating he believes in a well-balanced program of law enforcement, outreach & education, resource management and media contacts.

The two volunteer award winners then competed against each other to be Missouri's nomination for the International Hunter Education Association's (IHEA) Federal Ammunition/ATK Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year Award. Randall Vandegrift was selected to be Missouri's nominee.

The two MDC staff award winners then competed against each other to be Missouri's nomination for the International Hunter Education Association's (IHEA) "Professional of the Year" Award. Andy Rhodes was selected to be Missouri's nominee.

Please congratulate all of them when you get a chance or meet them and wish our international nominees good luck. The IHEA award winners will be announced and presented at the IHEA Annual Conference Saturday, June 4, 2011 at Wrightsville Beach in North Carolina.



### ***Coordinator's Corner***

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator  
**Tony L. Legg**  
[tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov)

May, can you believe how fast this year is moving. It has been a busy time so far, record attendance at the regional banquets, classes, meetings, trainings, annual MHEIA conference, putting things together for this year's IHEA annual conference and the 2012 conference to be here in Missouri. Yes, everyone is moving at light speed.

I hope that you all have had time to take for yourselves and especially your families. Getting out hunting, fishing, picnicking, sight-seeing, or just some time sitting on a big old stump with your significant other is critical for our well being. Hopefully, many of you were successful in the turkey woods, too.

Things are going to keep moving for everyone. You should be receiving your copies of this year's new 2009/2011 Student Guides and a complete new Instructor Guide. More about that later in the newsletter, but there are no real changes. You will also be getting new tests, they only have the one deleted question updated.

July 1st, will be the full change over to the MDC Event Manger system used for instructors in scheduling classes, class management and class results filing. No more bubble forms and hand printed rosters. Other than some miscommunication, things as of this writing have been going well all across the state.

Hope you all received your new Instructor Challenge Coin and have been having a good time with it. I think Scott Sarantakis owes about 14 rounds of drinks and Floyd Bohler about 6. Just remember its for having some fun and nothing says it has to be an alcoholic drink, just make mine a coke.



## Missouri High School Trap Shooters Receive Major Funding

Larry and Brenda Potterfield, founders and owners of Midway USA, recently donated \$330,000 to the Missouri Youth Sport Shooting Alliance to help increase the attendance by high school teams at both the High School State Championship and the Fall Classic both to be held at the Missouri Trapshooting Association home grounds at Linn Creek.

This will be the twenty-fourth year of the state High School Trapshooting Championship expected to draw over 800 competitors on April 30. Each eligible participating high school will receive a grant of \$2000 for their account with the Scholastic Shooting Trust. Additionally, \$5000 will be paid to the winning schools' trust fund in the High School and FFA Divisions, with \$3500 for second place, and \$2500 for third through fifth place.

Larry and Brenda are passionate about getting more young men and women involved in the shooting sports and are excited to be partnering with such a great youth organization as MYSSA.

For more about the Potterfield's or MidwayUSA, visit [www.midwayusa.com](http://www.midwayusa.com) or call 1-800-243-3220.

For more information about the Missouri Youth Sport Shooting Alliance, visit [www.moyouthshooting.org](http://www.moyouthshooting.org)



## Missouri Hunter Education Instructor Association's 2011 MHEIA Annual Conference A Grand Success

By: Tony Legg

Well if you did not attend this year's MHEIA annual conference in March you missed something great. I have to admit, other than not having the lake in the background, this was one grand success. As conferences used to be at the lake, this event started on Friday evening and concluded Sunday at noon.

Friday night had a wonderful meet and greet, with a silent auction, bar, snacks, and demonstrations by Dan Atkinson on Laser Shot and Hunter Tools. I think some instructors got a little carried away during the silent auctions and somehow used my name. I am sure it was only a mistake that I ended up paying for as many items as I did.

Saturday started with a business meeting of the association and then jumped into a great line-up of speakers and presenters. Opening remarks were delivered by the Department of Conservation's Director Bob Ziehmer and O&E Division Chief Mike Huffman. Deputy Director Tim Ripperger, O&E Unit Chiefs Patti Redel and Regina Knauer were in attendance, meeting with, along with taking

questions and comments from attendees throughout the day.

Presentations took off with a delivery by O&E Missouri River Unit Chief Regina Knauer on teaching techniques. Her presentation covered different learning styles instructors may encounter how to deal with these learners, along with examples and ideas for the instructors.



Next, Mr. Dan Atkinson presented on teaching with technology and how the use of simulators (like Laser Shot) and computer programs (like HE Tools) can help students better understand ideas and techniques. Again some great pointers and tips for instructors, like the technique with a deer's front legs.

A really great lunch meal from the hotel was enjoyed by all, along with presentations of MHEIA annual award winners. Of course the highlight for most of us grey hairs, was Frank Powers fulfilling his dream of presenting Peggy Ragland a tiara and announcing her queen. It was really a great lunch.



The afternoon included additional presenters, starting



with Justin Garrett, Secretary & Treasurer of the Missouri Atlatl Association (MAA). His presentation covered history, types, techniques, with slides and short videos, it really was informative and generated some real interest among the instructors. Except for the waiting in a crouching position for game (which

I could never get up from), I would not mind trying it as another hunting method to learn.

John Louk from the Treestand Manufacturers Association (TMA) provided some great information, data, updates on treestands and fall arrest systems, new website features and updated online course. The information on new lowering devices and suspension trauma was a real eye-opener and valuable for the classroom and upcoming information in the new student guides.





Marilyn Bentz, National Bowhunting Education Foundation (NBEF) Executive Director concluded the afternoon's presentations. She gave a great presentation on the NBEF and some of the new items available to instructors. Of great interest by many was her information on the NBEF's new Treestand Safety Video and their Project "Stand" (Stop Treestand Accidents 'N Deaths) instructor training and certification program <http://www.projectstand.net/>.

Saturday evening was another chance for attendees to get together at the meet and greet with a bar, eats provided by Bass Pro Shops, and the ongoing silent auctions. There were continuing presentations and chances to meet with TMA representatives or try out the new Laser Shot programs and HE Tools again with Dan Atkinson. Bass Pro also offered all attendees to stop by their Columbia store that weekend and use their name tags they provided for some great discounts on purchases.

Sunday's wrap-up featured a continually requested presentation by MDC on hunting incidents. Protection District Supervisor Scott Burger of Jasper County gave a presentation on a 2010 Jasper County youth turkey hunting incident he had investigated. Agent Jerry Austin of Webster County had a presentation on a 2010 Webster County adult turkey hunting incident. Protection District Supervisor Dan Love of Henry County gave a presentation on a Henry County waterfowl incident that involved both an adult and youth. All the presentations were very detailed and included a PowerPoint with photos and diagrams. It was easy to see some of the difficulties and unique situations each incident presented to the agents and their investigation.

The conclusion was a presentation by myself on the Hunting Incident Review Committee (HIRC) and the department's revocation process. This detailed how once the investigations are completed in the field, they go through a process establish by the Department and governed by several state statutes. This process determines recommendations from the HIRC, allow hearing requests from the shooter, and finally revocations by the Conservation Commission.

Congratulations goes out to the outstanding work by the MHEIA Conference Committee and the Association for its hard and fruitful work. Those of you who missed it, you missed one of the best state conferences. Hopefully, you will have a chance to make the next one. If you get a chance, thank your regional MHEIA director for the work they have done and inquire about the MHEIA.

Do you know how much Federal Excise Tax is charged at the manufacture on your equipment? Handguns - 10%, Long guns - 11%, Shells and Cartridges - 11%, Archery (draw weight 30 lbs or more, longbow, recurve, compound, crossbow, arrows, equipment, and accessories) - 11%

## Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation (MHFF)

*By Allan Hoover, MHFF Executive Director*



A transition from September to January in scheduling the 2011 MHFF Annual Meeting and Banquet proved to be a tremendous success. The largest gathering yet of Federation Members and their guests attended the event at Bass Pro Shops Independence location. Special guest speaker Corey Cogdell provided an inspirational account of the journey from her childhood in Alaska, to becoming an Olympic Bronze Medal winner in trap shooting at the 2008 Games in Beijing, China.

President Lee Vogel opened the meeting with a welcome to members and guests, and by introducing the new MHFF Board of Directors that assumed leadership responsibilities for the Federation on January 1, 2011: President Lee Vogel – 2 years, Secretary/Treasurer Dan Margita – 2 years, and At Large Directors David Rush – 2 years, Larry Rosanbalm – 3 years, David Wyatt – 1 year, and Sam Goller – 1 year. A brief biography of each Board Director can be found at the MHFF web site, [www.mhff.us](http://www.mhff.us).

The annual business meeting included a PowerPoint presentation charting significant growth in 2010 in the number of clinics conducted, new members and income. Plans were announced for a new County Chapter format to facilitate expansion of the MHFF Clinic model. This new format involves creating chapters of MHFF Members led by a county organizer who conduct clinics locally, rather than clinics being organized by the executive director. A pilot program of the new format has been launched in Clay County, with the chapter's first clinic scheduled for the weekend of April 8-10, 2011. It is fitting this new program was launched in Clay County since this will be the sixth consecutive year for conducting a youth hunt in the county, dating back to the Federation's inaugural event in the spring of 2006.

Additional plans for the coming year discussed during the annual meeting included pursuing strategic plan goals to increase membership in MHFF to 65, conduct separate fund-raising efforts to cover expenses related to our involvement with the 2012 IHEA Conference in Kansas City, and completion of the Training Manual/DVD project. Meeting the membership expansion goal requires the addition of two new members each month throughout the year. MHFF currently is exceeding that pace with the addition of nine new members in the first quarter of 2011.

A raffle fund-raiser for the 2011 President's Hunt in Wyoming generated approximately half the necessary funding for the IHEA Conference expenses, with another year to go until the conference. The Fund-raising Committee is planning additional efforts to meet the strategic plan goal. The Training Manual Committee is making progress on



the manual, and video footage for the DVD is complete.

MHHF will shift its focus this year toward advancing programs designed to facilitate expansion efforts, rather than focusing

on the number of clinics conducted. Our first clinic of the year occurred March 4-6 in Bates County. This is the fifth consecutive year for the event, which is hosted by Dan Hertzog, owner of Hedge Hollow Ranch. We will also be conducting two clinics in Cass and Clay counties, April 8-10 during the youth only spring turkey season.

Our expansion efforts to reach additional youth now include entering the world of social media. You can find more MHHF Clinic information on our web site, and you can follow the Federation's activities by visiting us on Facebook.

## **The Question of Hunting Ethics.**

*By: Mike Brooks, Outdoor Education & Range Supervisor*

### Definitions: Ethics vs. Preferences

Ethics = (Plural Noun) Code of Morality; A system of moral principles governing the appropriate conduct for a person or group.

Preferences = Selection of somebody or something; the view that one person, object, or course of action is more desirable than another, or a choice based on such a view.

Recently, I was researching the topic of hunting ethics for a speech I was invited to deliver and I read an article written by Dr. James A. Tantillo, a professor who teaches ethics and environmental philosophy at Cornell University. His article brought up many points that caused me to stop and think about hunting ethics as it pertains to educating the public.

He believes that most people today who think about hunting tend to struggle with really knowing the difference between hunting ethics and hunting preferences. People tend to lump all value questions together under the heading "ethics".

For example, the debate about using modern in-line muzzleloaders verses the traditional sidelock style rifles or using traditional archery methods verses compound bows for deer hunting. Both methods are ethical in the eyes of those who believe in and use that method.

Some more examples of hunting preferences are mechanical duck decoys, electronic callers, and robotic turkey decoys. All of these things fall into the category of Hunting Preferences and not Hunting Ethics. Don't get me wrong, there will be folks who will argue the point that using these things is unethical because they give the hunter too

much advantage over their quarry.

The other side of the argument however is by using these methods it makes the hunter more efficient and in doing so they lose or wound fewer animals. Both primitive and modern methods are ethical as long as the hunters using them remain law abiding and safe and they are able to make quick clean kills to harvest the animal pursued.

The decision about how a hunter chooses to hunt is a personal preference question. For example, if a hunter starts baiting or feeding the deer prior to the season and they go out twice a day to put out the feed, and they continue this ritual for 2 months before the season, they make about 120 trips to the woods. This is done so that the deer become accustomed to coming to this location during specific times of the day in search of a meal.

Perhaps while there the hunter spends some time sitting in a tree stand to see the deer that comes in to feed. By doing this the hunter has extended his deer season by adding enjoyment and value to the pleasure of their deer season by being a wildlife watcher while patterning/scouting the deer.

But suppose a second hunter who owns and hunts on their own land goes out opening day and sits beneath his apple trees that were planted on the property by a previous landowner, and shoots and kills the first deer that happens along.

Who is to say that one hunter appreciates their hunting success more than the other? At the moment of the kill each hunter celebrates the life of the animal in their own way. Only each of them can truly tell you what they are feeling at that moment.

As you know many of these practices are regulated by laws which help preserve Fair Chase for the animals. The laws are not there to restrict the hunter from being any less successful but rather to protect the animal populations from decimation much like what happen to the Bison in the 1800's.

While there were several factors involved in the demise of the bison, one example has always stood out to me. Because an enemy of the United States government (the Native Americans) depended heavily on the Buffalo for survival, using practically every component of the creature, the political decision was made to cut off their major supply of food and life support.

Due to this decision and others like it (railroad, hide hunters, etc) we reduced the herds of the estimated 30 to 50 million Bison down to only a few hundred in just a matter of a few short decades. If there had been laws in place, seasons and limits, we would still enjoy more wild bison today.

So is the first deer hunter we discussed who uses bait or food to draw the animals to their stand any more or less ethical than the second deer hunter who walks out and sits among



the apple orchard that he knows the deer use frequently? The hunter who makes 120 trips to the woods is probably more likely to be a hunter/naturalist or a nature hunter who gives more thought about deer biology, wind direction, scent concerns, and puts forth effort to study deer much of the time.

The Utilitarian Hunter who goes out only a day or two of the season to fill their freezer because they enjoy eating venison all year for a variety of legitimate reasons, quality of food, better taste, and more healthy for you. Even though the two hunting experiences differ greatly, who is the more ethical?

Both hunters are ethical as long as they still obey the laws, hunt safely, and make quick clean kills that the public expects from us as hunters. So you can start to see how important it is to educate people about the difference between hunting ethics vs hunting preferences.

Do any of you hunt waterfowl? I would guess that most of you would never think about shooting a duck on the water would you? From my professional training with the CONSEP program; an acronym for Cooperative North American Shotgunning Education Program (This is the department's Effective Wingshooting for Hunters program) I can tell you that waterfowl hunters have a well documented average wounding rate of 25% while engaged in the activity of shooting at flying ducks or geese.

Would that rate be reduced if you restrict your hunting preference to shooting waterfowl on the water? Sure it would, but is that what society perceives as "Fair Chase"? Could it be the right thing to do for the resource? Yes it could but would it be socially unacceptable to do so?

In 2006 the US Fish and Wildlife Service hired Responsive Management, a Virginia based public opinion polling and research firm to conduct a nationwide survey of persons about hunting and fishing. In 1995, 73% of Americans approved of hunting while in 2006, 78% approved of hunting. Approval of fishing however dropped 1.7% from 95% in 1995 to 93.3% in 2006.

Hunting and Fishing continue to be popular activities with the majority of the people surveyed.

As Hunter Education Instructors we need to help our hunters and non-hunters understand the difference between hunting ethics and hunting preferences and we need to teach our hunters how to make better choices about their own hunting preferences.

We need to help them understand the importance of them being law abiding, respectful, and showing a sincere attitude toward people who are non-hunters about things that pertain to hunting ethics and preferences.

So here is another way to think about this. If it is illegal it

is unethical and a question of hunting ethics. If it is legal (but perhaps unpopular) it is a hunting preference question.

In closing I wanted to quote a man whom all of you have heard of; Aldo Leopold. In his book *A Sand County Almanac* he said *"A peculiar virtue in wildlife ethics is that the hunter ordinarily has no gallery to applaud or disapprove of his conduct. Whatever his acts, they are dictated by his own conscience, rather than a mob of onlookers. It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of this fact."*



## Central Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

**Brian Flowers**

[brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov)

Central Region Volunteers, MDC staff and family members met on the evening of February 22nd at the Conservation Employees Credit Union in Jefferson City for our annual Hunter Education Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The evening began with a great meal served by Donita's catering of Jefferson City which was followed by an informative program and awards. Speakers during the evening included: Mike Huffman (O&E), Tom Strother (Protection), Scott Rice (Protection), Jeff Cockerham (O&E) and Tony Legg (O&E).



Agents' Heisler & Jones recognize Instructor Carmen Hayden for an outstanding career teaching Hunter Education

District Supervisor Mike Jones and Morgan County Conservation Agent Kurt Heisler gave special recognition to long time Hunter Education Instructor Carmen Hayden. Carmen has been active teaching for more than 30 years. He was instrumental in getting the program taught in the public school system in Morgan County. The Morgan County Agents' say they can't bear to let Carmen retire as he's been one of the driving forces behind Hunter Education in Morgan County.

The following individuals were recognized with years of service pins: Carmen Hayden (30 yrs+), Pat Masek (25 yrs), Robyn Raisch (25 yrs), Scott Huckstep (15 yrs), Regina Knauer (10 yrs), Todd Houf (10 yrs), Jason Vaughn (5 yrs), Matt Spurgeon (5 yrs), Matt Smith (5 yrs), Roger See (5 yrs) and Jean Kreutz (5 yrs).

There were many achievement awards earned in 2010

and awarded at the dinner, they included: Dennis Desmond (500 hrs), Scott Huckstep (500 hrs), Ramona Huckstep (500 hrs), Tisha Holden (300 hrs), Diane Jurgensmeyer (300 hrs), Laura Pummill (200 hrs), Chad Robinson (200 hrs), Roger See (200 hrs), Larry Koenig (100 hrs), Robert Overstreet (100 hrs), James Smith (100 hrs), and Don Fredrich (100 hrs). Those also earning awards, but not in attendance included: Dave Hammond (700 hrs), Doug Smentkowski (300 hrs), Beau Griffith (300 hrs), Don Munford (200 hrs), Randy Dismang (100 hrs), John Locker (100 hrs), and Chad Roush (100 hrs).



2010 Regional Award winners Conservation Agent Jason Eikermann (Gasconade County) and Marilyn Overkamp (Hermann) presented by Brian Flowers, Outdoor Skills Specialist

The 2010 Volunteer Instructor of the Year as well as the 2010 Agent Instructor of the Year was awarded during the evening. The Central Region Volunteer Instructor of the Year goes to Marilyn Overkamp of Hermann. Marilyn goes above and beyond the call of duty in serving as chief instructor for the Hermann hunter education courses. The Agent Instructor of the Year goes to Conservation Agent Jason Eikermann also of Hermann. Jason was the most active Conservation Agent in Hunter Education during the past year and partners with Marilyn to administer a very successful program in Gasconade County.



Front row: Carmen Hayden (Morgan), Jean Kreutz (Callaway), Marilyn Overkamp (Gasconade), Ramona Huckstep (Callaway), Laura Pummill (Saline). Middle row: Tisha Holden (Camden), Pat Masek (Cole), Diane Jurgensmeyer (Miller), Scott Huckstep (Callaway), Dennis Desmond (Saline), Roger See (Montgomery). Back row: Matt Smith (Morgan), Jason Eikermann (Gasconade), Matt Spurgeon (Montgomery), Jason Vaughn (Moniteau), Robert Overstreet (Boone), Chad Robinson (Boone), Jim Smith (Callaway) and Larry Koenig (Howard).

## Central Region HE Students Get Surprise and Great Training.

*From; John Locker, Central Region HE Instructor*

Just thought I would share some photos from the Freeburg and Linn Classes. Freeburg had a surprise (though not a nice one) When Conservation Officer Mark Haviland brought in a dead juvenile Bald Eagle he had to retrieve from the roadside. Inconclusive what happened, but all the students got a close up look at our National bird and its size.



Linn Instructor Rod Luck and Mark Haviland go through the Fall Arrest System showing the simplicity of its use.



## Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
**Rob Garver**  
[rob.garver@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:rob.garver@mdc.mo.gov)

Its spring time and the smell of turkey season is in the air. I hope that you all have a chance to bag your birds. Our numbers for the spring hunter ed classes are looking good, and you have all done a great job adapting to the new online sign up. I want to thank each of you for ability to bear with me during this new process.

I want to thank all of you that attended the banquets this year, and encourage those of you that were unable to attend to come next year. Congratulations to all of you that received



awards for hours of service at the banquets this year.

Congratulations to Kevin Fox for being the Northeast regional instructor of the year. Kevin has taught at every hunter education class that was offered in Clark County for the past 5 ½ years. He always brings a positive attitude and is fun to teach with. Kevin recruited two new instructors that are actively teaching in Clark County. He also routinely volunteers his help with classes in the surrounding counties. Mr. Fox is also the coach for a local FFA shooting sports team and in an active member in his NWTF and Quail Forever chapters. Thank you Kevin Fox for all of your hard work.

Another Congratulations is in order for Conservation Agent Rudd Binsbacher for being the agent instructor of the year for the Northeast region. Rudd had an excellent year with his law enforcement and his educational efforts. He works with a great bunch of volunteers in Clark County and has a strong hunter education program that emphasizes on archery hunting and tree stand safety. Rudd assists each year with the Missouri girls exploring nature event in Monroe city, where he taught several newcomers the basics of archery. He also works with local 4-H chapters and the NWTF chapter with their youth events. Thanks go to you, Agent Binsbacher from all of us working to keep Missouri a great place to hunt trap and fish.

As we get closer to fall be sure to get your classes put online plenty of time ahead. We have had many students call that were unable to sign up for the class because the cut-off date was set for a week before the class. When you add a class you can change the date of final sign up to whatever is necessary. Remember if you have any problems or questions about the online system give me a call and we will get you lined out. Also, keep an eye on your supplies and if you are going to need things for a class, be sure to let your agent or I know in plenty of time to get them to you. Thanks again for everything that you do and have a great summer.



### ***Ozark Region***

Outdoor Skills Specialist

***Larry Lindeman***

***[larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov)***

I sincerely hope that everyone has had a safe turkey season so far, and perhaps you got the chance to pass on and share your turkey hunting prowess with a youngster or perhaps someone who has yet to get hooked on the sport.

The Ozark Region has already held two of the three HE volunteer instructor banquets. If you were unable to attend the others, feel free to make this one. It will be held May 21, at the Top of the Ozarks Shooting Range meeting /

classroom facility. Festivities begin at 4:00 pm if you wish to shoot bring your favorite shotgun and ammo. The meal will be served around 6:00 pm. Please come join us and check out their new facility. It is a great place to teach Hunter-Ed. Please RSVP by phoning or emailing me as I do need to know if you're planning on attending so there will be plenty of food and enough incentive awards for all the active volunteer HE instructors in attendance.

I greatly appreciate all of you who have exercised patience and understanding as the Ozark Region is about to enter the transitional phase of online HE class pre-registration. Thank you for bearing with us as the change has been challenging at times. Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns pertaining to this. I don't want to wish away the spring and summer, but I really want to get all the bugs out before the heavy HE schedule hits this fall.

In order to better communicate with the Ozark Region instructors, I would greatly appreciate having your current e-mail address some of the ones I have are no longer valid. The best way would be to simply send me an e-mail at the address listed below; thank you in advance!

As always, thanks again for all that you do and our goal for all ages is to ... "keep 'em pointed in a safe direction"

### **Pulaski Co. Hunter Education Instructors Purchase New Firearms Training Kit**

*By: Casey Simmons, Pulaski County Conservation Agent*



Hunter Education is by far the most important program offered by the Missouri Department of Conservation. In fact, it is the only hunting program that we offer that is required by law. Missouri hunters born on or after January 1, 1967 must be hunter education certified to be able to purchase a firearms hunting permit. The demand for this crucial program often far exceeds the capability of the MDC personnel who teach this course. Time constraints due to a multitude of other job duties make it difficult to meet the demand of the public for this essential program, especially in areas with a high citizen population. The Missouri Department of Conservation is

very fortunate to have an array of volunteers to assist with many of our services to the public, and volunteer hunter education instructors are an invaluable asset to our agency. The Missouri Hunter Education program has been successful in certifying over 1 million students since its inception, and volunteer instructors are largely responsible for this great milestone.

Recently, Hunter Education Instructors in Pulaski County saw that there was a clear need for a new training gun kit for the many classes offered in their area. Their existing firearms kit had literally “seen its better days,” and the kit was often not available for an entire course if multiple classes were being conducted on the same dates in the county or district. Efforts were made to obtain an additional gun kit through traditional means by donation through the local court system, but this proved to be unsuccessful.

The volunteer instructors in Pulaski County were persistent in their efforts, and when they learned of a new training gun kit being produced by Remington Firearms Company, they devoted themselves to raising enough money for the purchase of the new training aid. In the fall of 2010, the volunteer instructors in Pulaski County held a gun raffle for a Browning BPS .410 gauge shotgun, and they successfully raised over \$2300.00 towards the purchase of the \$1500.00 Remington gun kit. The funds raised from the raffle also allowed for the cost of the Browning shotgun, and two additional bonus firearms - a Marlin semiautomatic .22 caliber rifle, and a Traditions .50 caliber in-line muzzleloader. All three of the firearms were given away at the conclusion of the final course offered in Pulaski County in 2010.

MDC was the beneficiary of a large amount of personal time and expense on the part of these instructors. Numerous man hours were dedicated to the success of this gun raffle, and each instructor endured various personal expenses through fuel costs and material supplies (tickets, flyers, etc). All of this effort was provided in addition to the countless hours they already dedicate to providing classes. The Hunter Education Instructors in Pulaski County are a shining example of dedication to the Hunter Education program, and their teamwork is a model to emulate.



## *Southeast Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*DeeDee Dockins*  
[deedee.dockins@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:deedee.dockins@mdc.mo.gov)

Wow, how can time fly so fast. It sure seems that the older I get, the faster time flies. Anyway, things have been extremely busy around the Southeast Region but aren't they always? As a lot of you know, I have been out of the office to be with my

dad after he has had a stroke and severe heart valve infection. During that time, we have spent a lot of time remembering the “old days” of Hunter Education. My dad was one of the original eight volunteer coordinators in the state of Missouri helping MDC get the Hunter Education Instructor program off the ground prior to making it mandatory. I spent many weekends with Dad watching him teach. Finally at 14 years of age, MDC allowed me to teach with another instructor. At 16, I taught the SEMO physical education teacher/students Hunter Education. Those were good memories with dad.

As I visited with my dad, I had to think about how much time I have spent in the woods with my son. As I write this, I am planning to take off work and “attend” one of our workshops with my son Jonathan. I plan to take off more time of “work” to spend in the woods teaching him about nature and communication without the **Nintendo**. I sure hope you do the same.

I want to congratulate our Southeast Region on using the new online Hunter Education pre-registration. Those of you who have taught this spring, should have seen the ease of registration. I haven't heard of one person who misses handwriting rosters or checking bubble forms. If you are an instructor who has not tried out the new system yet, please contact me so I can train you. Bear with us, we will have everyone using this system with ease!

Remember, our Hunter Education year begins July 1. You will need to contact your conservation agent in your county to pick up your supplies. If you have any supplies not used by the end of your spring Hunter Education course, please return them to the Southeast Office or your county agent.

We had a wonderful Hunter Education Banquet in April with plenty of fun and trivia. Congratulations to the following instructors reaching their teaching milestones for teaching year 2009/2010:

Myron Carter	mug
Dee Dee Douglas	mug
Julia Horrell	mug
Deborah Jokerst	mug
Timmeray Porter	mug
Jackie Rowe	mug
Danny Tallent	mug
Don Tinnin	mug
Linda Valleroy	mug
Ron Valleroy	mug
James Bell	Briefcase
Paula Brashers	Briefcase
Randy Morsel	Briefcase
Al Sandus	Briefcase
Al Bond	Knife
Charles Long	Watch
Jerry Dippold	Jacket





## Northwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*Tim Miller*  
[tim.miller@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:tim.miller@mdc.mo.gov)

Spring is finally here!! The Crappie will start biting soon, mushrooms will be popping up, and of course Turkey season. All of these are welcome events after a long drawn out winter. Winter turned out to be a very busy time with Hunter Education. We of course had our instructor banquets.

We had our St. Joseph district hunter education banquet on January 29 here in St. Joseph. A good time was had by all with record breaking attendance of 79 instructors and guests. Congratulations to David Rapson who was St. Joseph district's hunter education instructor of the year. On February 18, we had our Chillicothe district banquet. Congratulations to Marsha Hoskins who was Chillicothe district's hunter education instructor of the year. Thanks to all the volunteers and staff that make hunter education the great program that it is.

This winter a lot of time was spent getting the Northwest region's hunter education instructors caught up with on-line hunter education registration. I have conducted trainings with our volunteers and staff. Everyone seems to like the fact that this has eliminated much of our paperwork.

Another highlight this winter was the 43rd annual antler measuring event in St. Joseph. Thanks to all the volunteers that staffed the hunter education booth and measured antlers. A little history on antler measuring in St. Joseph: Antler measuring as a MDC event got its start in 1968 with antlers being measured in Phil Rice's (former Protection Regional Supervisor) Basement. In subsequent years, its popularity grew to the point that the event was moved to Hatfield's Sporting Goods in 1971. In 1986, the event was moved again to East Hills mall to accommodate for increased security and the need for more room. The concept of qualifying antlers for honors was designed to honor the animal not the hunter.



Today, the MDC utilizes this popular event promote a vast array of conservation issues that are both traditional and current. Hunter Safety education, changes in upcoming seasons and permits, deer management, and even volunteer opportunities with the Department are included just to name a few. Owners of antlers qualifying for Show-Me Big Bucks, Boone and Crockett, Pope & Young, & other national honors will be provided entry forms that they can submit to be entered into record books at the owner's choice. We were even able to sign several students up online for upcoming hunter education classes at this event.

Lastly, I would like announce that I am going to rekindle the hunter education instructor picnic in the Northwest region. Mark your calendars for July 23. This will be at the Hartell Conservation area north of Plattsburg. I plan on having it potluck style in the classroom. Also, Hartell is a great place to fish, so I will have plenty of Zebco 33's for instructors and guests to use. There will be invitations to follow. Once again, I would just like to say thanks to all our volunteer hunter education instructors.



## Kansas City Region, KC Metro District

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
*Chris Capps*  
[chris.capps@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:chris.capps@mdc.mo.gov)

The crappie are beginning to bite as I write this, tempting me to leave the confines of this office and involve myself in some outdoor recreation. It is hard to believe another season is beginning, time passes so quickly it is almost more than I can bear!

I want to extend my thanks to all the Hunter Education family in the Kansas City region for their support and generous contributions to the program and another successful season. Instructors have been involved with, not only Hunter Ed classes but, hunts designed to involve novice hunters both young and old. From Waterfowl hunts to deer hunts to squirrel hunts to pheasant hunts, many novice hunters got a taste of the thrill of hunting thanks to instructors who want to pass on the tradition. We've also been busy recruiting young hunters through the classes we teach and through public events where we get youth involved in the shooting sports, letting them try their hand at archery, pellet rifles, and shotgun shooting.

The Kansas City Region has experienced some trials this season. Joe and Louise Grooms lost their home of many years to a tragic fire. We are glad they are both okay and are glad to see things going in a more positive direction now. They just closed on a new home in Belton and Joe will soon be able to retire and do all that hunting that has had to take a back seat to work!



Sandy Hedges suffered a stroke recently and has lost some function on the left side of her body, but Sandy is hard to keep down and has been working hard to regain use of her left hand and foot. She is mending and we all wish her well.

O.H. Lewis has had some medical issues but seems to be doing better and has been able to return to teaching. Priscilla Moore had a bout with her diabetes but is back home and hopefully on the mend. We are hopeful everybody is back in full swing in time for our annual fun shoot and picnic at Lake City Range on June 4.

Instructors in the Kansas City District taught 104 courses in 2010, certifying over 3000 students and are on course to increase those numbers in 2011. They have manned booths at sports shows, fairs, trade shows, and expos. They have assisted at MoNASP events, shooting sports events, YHEC and Trap Competitions. They have given of their time to guide and mentor young and old in the great outdoors and I appreciate everything they have done, but as I always tell them, don't forget to take time for yourself and your family. GO HUNT, GO FISH, GO OUTSIDE!! The sun is shining through my office window, I can't wait any longer. Now where did I put that fishing pole? .....



### ***Kansas City Region Sedalia/Clinton District***

Outdoor Skills Specialist

**Mark Miller**

[mark.miller@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:mark.miller@mdc.mo.gov)

Greetings from Sedalia and Clinton

As I am writing this, the sun is shining, and the weather man has promised a 60 degree high for today. The first one I can remember in what seems to have been an endless winter. By the time you read this, however, hopefully we all will have put fish in the boat, and maybe even tagged a turkey or two. Winter will be but a distant memory.

I want to thank all those who attended the banquets at Clinton and Sedalia. The Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the year for the Sedalia district was Marc Spunagule. Marc is a teacher at Warsaw High School. He teaches HE as Part of the curriculum for his classes in Outdoor Sports. He also helps frequently in classes and events throughout the area. In addition to teaching HE, he is the coach of the Warsaw MoNASP Archery team, which placed second in the state competition at Linn this past month. In the Clinton district, Dennis Page was selected. Dennis is the principle at Butler Elementary School, in Bates County. Dennis has been an instructor for eight years, and is an integral part of HE, and education in the community. Dennis is retiring this year after thirty years in education. We congratulate him on this outstanding achievement.

I want to thank each of you again for all you do for hunter education, and the professionalism with which you do it. If I can do anything for you let me know.

As Always, Hunt Safe



### ***St. Louis Region***

Outdoor Skills Specialists (to left in order top to bottom)

**Scott Sarantakis - Lincoln,  
St. Charles, & Warren Counties**  
[scott.sarantakis@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:scott.sarantakis@mdc.mo.gov)



**Dennis Cooke - St. Louis City &  
St. Louis County**  
[dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov)



**Conrad Mallady - Crawford,  
Franklin, Jefferson, &  
Washington Counties**  
[conrad.mallady@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:conrad.mallady@mdc.mo.gov)

The Hunter Education Instructor Awards Banquet for the St. Louis Region was held at the Holiday Inn in Eureka on January 14, 2011. It was yet another productive year for Hunter Education in 2010 and this event was a great opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our team of instructors.

A new instructor training class was held in Sullivan, MO on February 26, 2011 with 12 instructor applicants in attendance. We would like to welcome the following individuals to our team of instructors: Michael Butler, Frank Scott, Jennifer Muschany, Don Muschany, Dave London and Don Draper Jr.—all from St. Charles County. Also, Steve Scharfenberg—Crawford County, Guy Vogt—St. Louis County, Casey Hawkes—Lincoln County and Sue Haskins, James Worth and Richard Schmaltz—all from Jefferson County. Welcome aboard and good luck.

Two more instructor training classes will be held in the St. Louis Region in 2011. One will be held at the Forest Park Visitor Center in St. Louis City on Saturday June 11, from 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. The other will be held at the Regional Office on the Busch Conservation Area in St. Charles County on Sunday August 14, from Noon to 8:00p.m. Those wishing to apply can contact Angie Weber at [Angie.Weber@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Angie.Weber@mdc.mo.gov) or 636/300-1953 ext. 224.

## Hunter Education Volunteer Awards

By Liz Lyons, Conservation Education Supervisor

Each year, volunteer hunter education instructors teach the basics of safe hunting, firearm safety, and hunting ethics to thousands of Missourians. Many instructors go above and beyond expectations — it is these instructors that we recognize as Instructors of the Year.



This year, Barry Cagle, a St. Charles County hunter education instructor, received not only the St. Louis Region's Hunter Education Instructor of the Year Award, but also

received the statewide Instructor of the Year Award. In addition to teaching many regular hunter education classes, Barry also taught a hunter education course for students at a St. Charles high school, and taught a week-long hunter education day camp for kids.

Linda Carroll received the MDC Staff Instructor of the Year Award in the St. Louis Region. Linda is a Public Service Assistant at the Sullivan Office, answering phone calls and helping the general public with hunter education questions—always with a smile. She also voluntarily teaches hunter education classes in the region, going above and beyond with all her efforts.



Becky Robertson received the Conservation Agent Instructor of the Year Award in the St. Louis Region. Becky visits a great deal of student classes in the St. Louis Region, and teaches an outdoor skills/hunter education camp for girls in the summer.

A number of instructors received their 1000 hour award: Mark Burns, Kevin Dixon, Ron Rosson, Gwen Morris, Barry Cagle, Don Draper, Steve Fleming, and Dennis Arnold. Thank you for all your time and efforts!



Congratulations to all our hunter education award recipients!



## Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

Jean Mayer - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry and McDonald Counties  
[jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov)



Greg Collier - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone and Taney Counties  
[greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov)

## Southwest Region Instructors Represent Missouri at the International Level

They were selected as two of the best in the region, then the state, and now they've been selected to represent Missouri at the International level. Who are they? They are veteran instructor Randall Vandegrift and Andy Rhodes. Randall is a volunteer Bowhunter Education Instructor from Monett, Missouri. His application was entered in the Federal Ammunition/ATK Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year Award category. Andy is a staff Hunter Education Instructor at the Andy Dalton Range and lives in Ash Grove, Missouri. Andy's application was entered in the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) "Professional of the Year" Award category.

## Southwest Hunter Education Goes Global!

If you've not been through the process of conducting a hunter education class using the new online system and you plan to conduct a class this fall, you need to prepare by contacting us. The instructors that conducted classes earlier this year have gone through the process of updating profiles, creating locations, listing classes, processing the students' tests and temporary cards as well as submitting the results online. If you're not one of them and you want to list and conduct a class this fall, please contact Jean or I so that we can get you started. We want to help you bear the load!

All primary instructors in the new system (a primary instructor is designated by who lists the class) need to plan ahead and list classes no less than 30 days prior to the event.

## Quotes on Change

With all of the changes going on, and recognizing my own struggles with the subject, I thought it might be fun to share some quotes. Some are funny, some hit kind of close to home. I hope you enjoy them, and I want to thank all of you for bearing with us through these times of change.

Change is inevitable - except from a vending machine.  
 ~Robert C. Gallagher



You can avoid having ulcers by adapting to the situation: If you fall in the mud puddle, check your pockets for fish. ~Author Unknown

Stubbornness does have its helpful features. You always know what you are going to be thinking tomorrow. ~Glen Beaman

If you want to make enemies, try to change something. ~Woodrow Wilson

What we call progress is the exchange of one nuisance for another nuisance. – Henry Ellis

Faced with the choice between changing one's mind and proving that there is no need to do so, almost everyone gets busy on the proof. ~John Kenneth Galbraith

### **Banquet News**

Jean and I want to thank the instructors, their families and MDC staff that attended the Hunter Education Banquets held this past February. If you missed attending the banquets, they were held in Joplin and Springfield. Please watch for invitations for next year's banquets. They're generally mailed out after the first of the year.



### **Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center**



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Eric Edwards**  
[eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov)

Greetings, I don't know about the rest of you but I'm ready to put away my winter coat and trade it in for a box call and some chalk! We've been able to pick up a few new volunteers in this past quarter; if you have a chance to come out to the range and introduce yourself to these new folks I'm sure you'll enjoy getting to know them. As always we are looking for more volunteers so if you have some free time on your hands give me a call or send me an email. I will list a few of our programs that are coming up in the next couple of months, if any interest you, as either a instructor or student, please call and sign up early. Have a safe and memorable spring season, I hope to see you in the woods or in the classroom.

### **May**

3 – 5, Hunter Education Class 5:30 – 9:30 pm

**8 - Don't forget Mom!**

11, 12, and 14 - Basic Handgun Class

20 & 21, Discover Nature; families – Camping

### **June**

13 – 17, Hunter Education Day Camp **HELP NEEDED**

20 – 24, Boy Scouts Shooting Camp **HELP NEEDED**

28 – 29, Archery Day Camp

### **July**

6, 7, and 9, Basic Handgun Class

13 & 14, Basic Skeet

23 - Busch Shooting Range Outdoor Expo

### **August**

2, 3, and 4, Hunter Education Class 5:30 – 9:30 pm

10 & 11, Bow Tuning

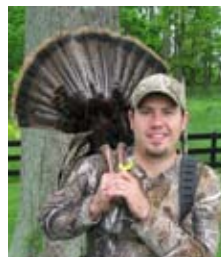
25 - Discover Hunting; Dove Hunting Clinic

### **September**

6, 7, and 8, Hunter Education Class 5:30 – 9:30 pm

8 - Discover Hunting; Bow Hunting 101 class

28 - Discover Hunting; Duck Hunting Class



### **Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center**



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Jake Hindman**  
[jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov)

I hope everyone had a safe and successful turkey season this past spring. By the time you receive this newsletter summer will be setting in and the preparation for fall hunting seasons will soon begin. If things go as planned my wife and I will have our second daughter sometime around when this newsletter goes to print, so I will try and include some photos for the next newsletter.

The Jay Henges shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center has had quite a successful and busy year. Not only was the range closed for 10 months for an extensive renovation, the complex continues to be updated. For the summer of 2011 Henges is slated to receive several improvements including parking lot renovations, trap house updates, trap field divider improvements and some sound proofing for the waiting area near the Observation Booth. As always, please bear with us as we attempt to make these improvements timely and in such a way that public visitation is not vastly altered.

For a list of programs for upcoming months please visit our website at [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges). In addition to upcoming programs our next Range Volunteer meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2011.

I urge you to take a first timer out hunting or just exploring nature, and mentor them, you will be glad you did.



### **Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center**

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Mike Brooks**  
[mike.brooks@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:mike.brooks@mdc.mo.gov)



There have been a few changes at Dalton Range since the last time we spoke. I am proud to report to you that Mr. Daniel VanDerhoef who many of you know as one of



the range officers here at the shooting range was selected for the Conservation Agents training class of 2011. Dan has been in training now since March 1 and is doing well on his new career endeavor. He is missed at the range by staff and customers alike, but I know he will do an outstanding job representing the Conservation Department in the field helping educate folks about the wise use of our natural resources. We wish him continued success!

On February 24, 2011 I was honored to deliver the keynote speech at the east side SW Regional Hunter Education Awards Banquet. I received a warm welcome and always appreciate the opportunity to share some time with such professional individuals. I applaud Warren Rose, Jean Mayer, Greg Collier, and Barbara Amass for their continued dedication to the program and once again they put together another great banquet.

I would also like to thank the Conservation Agents who spend some of their time helping manage the hunter education program in their counties. What a difference it makes to have the uniformed presence at those classes, even if only for a few minutes out of their already busy schedules. While it would be easy to say they just don't have the time they always make the effort to help ensure that Missouri remains a true leader in Hunter Education.

Tony Legg from Jefferson City attended the banquet and made a presentation about the new online registration process for Hunter Education. During his presentation he pointed out that the department has more VOLUNTEER Hunter Education Instructors than we have paid staff working around the state. When you stop and think about this for a moment you suddenly realize just how large the contribution is that each of you makes to keep hunting safe.

Just think about your role in educating the public about the wise use of the natural resources we enjoy today. If you ever wonder if you are making a difference, just remember that without the Volunteer Instructor Cadre much of the work that gets done by paid staff would have to stop due to the high demand of the Hunter Education program. Thank You, for all you do!

One of the most rewarding events for me personally as well as professionally is our Day at the Range event for people with disabilities. It is scheduled for June 18, 2011 this year and we are always looking for Hunter Education Instructors to help run the shooting portions of that day long event. If you can assist us please call the range so we can get you added into the mix of volunteers.

Our program schedule is full once again and we are always in need of qualified volunteers to help with those. Remember, you can get hour credit towards the awards when you help with a hunter education related program at the ranges. These include shotgun, rifle, handgun programs, along with hunting programs and clinics that are conducted around the state.

The Wonders of Outdoor Learning Facility or WOLF school is winding down for another year and just this morning I had a parent of one of the students call about bringing her son out to shoot at the range but I could sense some apprehension in her voice. I assured her that since her son was a WOLF student that he had more knowledge about firearms safety and safe gun handling procedures than a very high percentage of people in Springfield do.

By the time our conversation ended she was praising us for all of the effort we put into helping the program be a continued success. She talked about the high self esteem her son now has and the desire to shoot archery and use the rifle range that he shows continually. She told me that his birthday was coming up next week and he was getting a new bow, arrows, and a target for shooting at home. I can see a visit to the range with his new bow in the near future.

There are many opportunities for Hunter Education Instructors to get involved in public education programs around the state. For example, the Youth Hunter Education Challenge state competition takes place in June in Jefferson City. The Youth State Trap Shooting Competition takes place late in April each year. Both of these programs need volunteers who are safety minded when handling firearms and all of you can fill that role very well! Again, thanks for all you do and I encourage you to take a kid hunting or fishing this spring.



## *Parma Woods Range & Outdoor Ed Center*



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
Nathan Woodland  
[nathan.woodland@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:nathan.woodland@mdc.mo.gov)

My soul hungers for the annual rituals and bounty of spring. As the icy winds of winter yield to the relentless beauty of dogwoods and redbuds, my mid-morning and afternoon naps beneath a SNUGGIE shift to warm sun-ray induced daydreams filled with gobbling toms, afternoon mushroom hunts, and fried crappie fillet suppers.

This spring will be a busy one for me, as my wife Callie and I pray to welcome a healthy baby boy to the Woodland household in very late April or very early May. Mom, Dad, and big brother Justin can't wait to meet him. I do intend to take a couple weeks away from work after his arrival to enjoy and adjust to our new addition.

I hope to also find some time to tromp aimlessly around the woods, and I hope that as this hits your doorstep you have made the time to get outside and be actively engaged in outdoor pursuits. I know that in my absence the rest of the folks at the range will take care of your needs.

With that in mind I would like to introduce you to our new

Resource Assistant at the range. You could say that Linda views firearms as a tool, be it for hunting, protection, or recreation. Linda has long participated in Hunter Education, as well as other firearm courses, with a strong emphasis on safety. She began instructing Hunter Education roughly 25 years ago in St. Louis with a hiatus while settling in Kansas City.

Her husband is a competitive shooter, and her “kids” are a father and daughter team of German Shorthaired Pointers. She was the first in her family to harvest quail, pheasant, geese and turkey, and the first female in her family to harvest deer and ducks. Not just a consumptive user, her other interests lie in camping, fishing, hiking, gardening, wildlife viewing, food preservation and canning. Raised with outdoor ethics focused on respect and wise use, Linda truly believes in leaving a place in better condition than she found it. These shared values will long be a benefit to MDC. Please take a moment the next time you visit the range to stop in, say Hi, and meet Linda Yeager. I know she would enjoy getting to know you all.

As always we’ve got a full line up of classes, seminars, and events. Understand this is not a complete list, and the schedule is subject to changes. If there is anything you are interested in attending or assisting with just let us know. (816) 891-9941. Until next time, HUNT SAFE.

#### May

- 3-5, Hunter Education Class
- 6-7, Hunter Education Class
- 7-8, Youth/Disabled Turkey Hunt at Smithville Lake
- 16, Archery Field Day at Platte Falls CA for Students at Plaza Middle School (Park Hill District)
- 25, Metallic Cartridge Reloading (Level 1)
- 26, Metallic Cartridge Reloading (Level 2)
- 27-28, NRA Basic Shotgun Shooting Course

#### June

- 2, Shotgun Reloading
- 10-12, Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) at United Sportsman’s Club, Jefferson City, MO
- 11, Disabled Angler Carp Fishing Event at Blue Springs Lake, Blue Springs, MO
- 13-17, Youth Hunter Education Day Camp, 7th Annual
- 24, NRA First Steps Handgun Orientation

#### July

- 6-8, Youth Outdoor Skills Day Camp, 5th Annual
- 9, Bowhunter Education Instructor Class

#### August

- 2-4, Hunter Education Class
- 5-6, Hunter Education Class
- 20, Hunter Education Online Field Day
- 21 & 28, NRA Basic Rifle Shooting Course
- 31, Bowhunting for Beginners

Know what the number one factor nationwide that contributes to hunting incidents? *Failure to identify target*



## *Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center*

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
Steven Elliott  
steven.elliott@mdc.mo.gov



On Wednesday May 4, the Lake City Shooting Range will be going to its summer operational hours. Summer hours will be 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Wednesday – Sunday. The extended hours will offer public shooters more flexibility in public shooting hours.

#### Upcoming programs:

#### May

- 7, Beginning Archery, 9am to 11am
- 15, Basic Shotgun, 9am to 11am
- 17 & 18, Bowhunter Education, 6pm to 10pm
- 21, Family Trap Shooting

#### June

- 6, 7, & 8, Hunter Education, 6pm to 10pm
- 18, Women’s Firearm Safety-Phase II, 8am to 11:30am

#### July

- 10, Introduction to Skeet, 9am to 11:30am
- 12, Para Cord Weaving, 9am to noon
- 16, Women’s Firearm Safety-Phase I, 8am to 11:30am

#### August

- 4, Introduction to Deer Hunting, 6pm to 8:30pm

## **Course Scheduling and Cancellation for Small HE Classes**

We have been getting some angry public phone calls the past few months that has become a serious concern. It seems we may have a misunderstanding, and rightfully so with scheduling and cancellation guidelines on classes of less than 10 students.

In the MDC Instructor’s manual we have had the statement “To be certified, a class must have a minimum size of 10 students, unless prior approval is received from the OSS.” This primarily deals with scheduling not attendance or lack of. It is not clear, but it is not a cancellation policy.

So it is easy to see how misunderstandings and loss of intent could occur over the years. This rule was put in for two specific reasons; 1) to prevent an instructor from being pressured by someone in a political or influential position into scheduling and holding a special or private class for an individual or small private intimate group, 2) to prevent an instructor from scheduling and holding small special classes not open to the public in their basements or just signing off one or two individuals or friends. Not a tool to cancel small classes after students are there and a full 10 did not show.

The rule is not for a situation where 10, 11, 12 or more students are registered for a class or for classes that only

walk-ins are taken, then only 4, 5, 6, some number less than 10 show up and the class is automatically to be canceled.

Instructors should always call their OSS for approval before cancelling a class that already has students at it and ready to go. If you cannot reach your OSS, then the OSS's supervisor, or finally a Protection supervisor for approval and it should only occur in extreme special cases.

In today's world with folks driving 20, 30, 50, or more miles to become certified or bring their youth and gas prices soaring, cancelling a class after folks show up should not be an option.

If classes are to be cancelled, they should be done at least the evening before and the students registered contacted prior to the day of the course. Once the class reaches its start time and folks are there it is too late to cancel. If you have another class in the area soon, you could ask if the students mind going to it instead and explain the situation. However, if they say no then the class needs to be held. This may mean that instead of four instructors there for the complete course, you only need two and maybe the instructors take turns, two during one session, two another, and so on.

I know some say it is a waste of their time or it is not productive, but that is not the case. Creating the type of hunter we want and need in Missouri and meeting the needs of those that went through everything to get to that course is never a waste of time or non-productive. In a smaller intimate setting instructors have an opportunity to really conduct some great hands-on training maybe not otherwise be able to do.

Can you imagine, the wider impact of what happens if a few students show up and the class is suddenly cancelled. These students and parents worked out issues of meeting their hectic schedules, spending a good money for gas, meals, drinks, and in some cases the parents have had to make even more arrangements to take it with their youth. Some maybe paying baby-sitters for younger children at home, trading work hours, asking for time off work, using family vacation days, etc. What do you think their opinion and feelings are going to be about the Department after that?

How many family members and friends are they going to complain and tell of what the Department did to them? How do you think they and all that now hear about how the Department treated them may feel and vote if something about the Department comes up on the ballot, say the sales tax? We cannot blame those that show up for the inconsideration of those that did not in justifying cancelling the class.

With the new online registration, it should be pretty easy to see how many are register by the evening before the course or if you have an earlier cutoff for registrations to make decisions on cancellation before the day of the course. Once class time is there and students are there, the class goes on.

## Hunter Education Exemption Available for DD Individuals

The question has come up several times about an individual that completes the course, but due to a developmental disability cannot pass the HE tests and what can be done for that individual. We have had a little known process in place for several years to handle these situations.

Currently, the individual must have taken the course and attempted to pass the test and a retest. (As recommended, the retest should be read to them by an Instructor, parent, teacher, etc. and even the initial test if it is requested, there is no requirement that the test only can be read by a HE instructor).

If they cannot pass the tests, and they meet the definition of developmentally disabled in Missouri Statute 630.005, they can submit a exemption request form to Protection Division for an HE exemption. The form must be filled out by a licensed physician that is qualified to evaluate and treat the condition (this would not be their regular family physician in most cases). Protection Division administrative staff will contact the individual for more information.

If approved Protection Division will issue a card with the exemption and the individual must always hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult hunter (same requirements for an individual hunting with a Apprentice Hunter Authorization).

We worked with Protection Division, Regulations Committee, and the Commission to have this formalized in next year's 2012 regulations. These individuals currently can hunt with an adult until 16 and then an additional 2 years with a Apprentice Hunter Authorization without hunter education. It would be wrong after all those years of hunting to suddenly say now that you are 18 you can no longer hunt with the adult you have previously hunted safely with for years. So starting in the 2012 Wildlife Code the below exemption will be included.

Any resident of Missouri with a developmental disability as defined in section 630.005, RSMo, born on or after January 1, 1967 and at least 16 years of age and who has taken the Hunter Education Certification Course, but fails to successfully pass the certification tests may purchase any firearms hunting permit as provided in this chapter without display of a hunter education certification card; provided s/he carries a physician's statement provided by the department and signed by a licensed physician qualified to evaluate and treat the condition described and certifies the person has this disability. Such person must hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult hunter who is eighteen (18) years of age or older and who has in his or her possession a valid hunter education certificate card or was born before January 1, 1967. Printed copies of the physician's statement form can



be obtained from the Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180 and online at [www.missouriconservation.org](http://www.missouriconservation.org).

## **Updated Hunter Education Materials on the Way for All Courses Starting July 1.**

Instructors will soon be receiving a new Instructor Guide (IG) for your classes. No need to be alarmed, we did not make any big changes to the hunter education class. Your new IG only contains two changes that will effect your classes;

1. We have updated the information from the old permits to the new permits, especially as it relates to deer and turkey, and the tagging requirements, something you are already teaching.

2. There is an sidebar update in the treestand section on suspension trauma. Those attending the annual MHEIA conference were already briefed by TMA on this issue.

There have been a number of improvements in the graphics in the new Student Guide (SG) and some word and grammatical corrections that will not affect the course. But, instead of having instructors change out a bunch of pages and our desire to ensure instructors have the same pages the students have, we are giving everyone a complete new manual. Again, no big changes in what or how you teach.

The OSS should have all of their supply of new SG's in place to start using them on July 1. You can still use the older manuals as long as the front cover has the initial date of 2009, however the graphics will be different and have the old info on the permits. We recommend using the new SG's and save the old ones in case of a shortage or for parents or others sitting in the class and not taking the test.

There will also be a new test A and B to use beginning on July 1. The only change is to the question on the permits, which we had stopped marking wrong with the recent permit changes. No other changes have occurred and that question will now be scored. Old tests need to be turned into your OSS for destruction and recycling.

We have had a lot of good suggestions and comments on changes to the manuals and tests. However, we will not be making any major changes to either until after the formal report is presented by the program review committee and their recommendations are reviewed by administration.

## **Full Implementation of MDC Event Manager for All HE & BHE Classes Mandatory July 1**

As we transition to the full statewide implementation of MDC's Event Manager system for all HE and BHE classes on July 1, we want to make sure everyone understands the impact for their classes. Instructors need to make sure they have updated their information in their profile on the MDC Event Manager. If you had trouble logging in or still in need of training contact your OSS. Remember, that there is now

a tutorial in the Event Manager that will walk you through most of the program features and options.

### **Forms**

**Bubble forms:** We have asked that all unused bubble forms be turned in to your OSS starting July 1 after removing the temporary certificates at the bottom, so that the Conservation ID numbers printed on them can be recycled and used. If you are already handling your classes online through the Event Manager and have not done so, please collect them and send them to your OSS who will send them to the central office. Do not use bubble forms for any walk-ins for classes using online registrations or after July 1.

**Walk-in Form:** The walk-in form is what you should be using for those people who show up or walk-in to a class. It has all of the information that the bubble form had. If the student has a current Conservation ID number, put that on the form. If they don't have one, you will need to call the 800 number to get that ID number (1-800-949-6133, give terminal ID #3349982). If for some reason you cannot get to a computer or phone to get that information before the end of the class, the temporary certificate will have to be mailed to the student after the you have time to call and receive their Conservation ID number. We suggest that when advertising for their classes, instructors strongly encourage people to primarily register online, they can still call one of our offices (assuming the clerical staff are all trained on how to register someone who calls in), lessening the amount of walk-ins they might have. If an instructor or agent has a smart phone with internet access, the online registrations, course results, etc. can be retrieved this way as well.

**Temporary Certificates:** We have printed and available temporary certificates the same as we have always used and will continue to use. This certificate is recognize by any vendor and is identical to what was on the bubble form. This is also the same way we have been handling the Online/Field day courses for over two years now. You can continue to use the temporary certificates you removed from the bottom of the unused bubble forms (remember to please send the rest of the bubble form to your OSS). The Conservation ID number is generated by Event Manager when a student registers and is automatically printed on the class roster for you.

### **Temporary Certificate Process**

**Event Manager:** Instructors are not to print the certificate at the bottom drop down feature on the class roster. It is not a valid certificate. This feature will be deactivated, but until then, the only certificate to be used is the current temporary certificate provided to all instructors. Our reason for not having Kalkomey format this feature for our state in our Event Manager is twofold. First, we would have to train all permit vendors state wide to accept another temporary form which could be an issue if a clerk did not receive that information, did not recognize the new certificate and would not accept it. Second, we did not want to then make the instructor use

their blue and/or brown ink to print off the temporary certificates that are the same that we now use. The Hunter Education program review committee will be evaluating this as part of their review, but at this point we are not using this feature.

***Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.***

## **Welcome New Instructors!**

(Dec 2010 - Mar 2011)

These new instructors have completed their training, "First Course" mentorship teaching certification, background checks, and are ready to teach and start accruing hours. So all you senior instructors out there, be the great mentors we know you are. Get with your OSS and make contact with these folks and get them involved now. If you recognize any of these folks who might live near you, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

### **Central Region**

#### Boone County

Eric Aikin - HE  
Kaitlyn Bradley - HE  
Scott Dooley - HE  
Johathan Fox - HE  
Jeff Sapp - HE

#### Callaway County

Jerod Huebner - HE

#### Camden County

Matthew Dear - HE

#### Cooper County

Brett Twenter - HE  
Justin Twenter - HE

#### Saline County

Michaela Orear - HE

### **Kansas City Region**

#### Bates County

Wyatt Jackson - HE

#### Cass County

Donald Clever - HE  
Wendy Stewart - HE  
William Wilkinson - HE

#### Clay County

Cory Paul - HE  
Aaron Petty - HE

#### Henry County

Mathew Bryant - HE  
Kurtis Howell - HE  
Randy Keeran - HE

#### Jackson County

Michael Cervas - HE  
Crystal Cross - HE  
Keith Hannaman - HE  
Brian Hester - HE  
Rachael Malott - HE  
Kristen VanMeter - HE

#### Johnson County

Jared Coffey - HE

William Evans - HE

Hannah Rogers - HE

Bryan Rumans - HE

#### Pettis County

Laura Powers - HE

#### Platte County

Kenyon Greene

### **Northeast Region**

#### Adair County

Ryan Jones - HE

#### Putnam County

Jeremy Sayre - HE

#### Sullivan County

Chelsea Jeffries - HE

### **Northwest Region**

#### Andrew County

Chris Herrod - HE

#### Buchanan County

Bradley Breit - HE  
Timothy Brown - HE  
Amy Holt - HE  
Wayne Holt - HE  
Jeremiah Jago - HE  
Michael Mattox - HE  
Jacob Phillips - HE

#### Clinton County

Leslie Dickherber - HE  
Allison Gienapp - HE  
Dylan Reno - HE  
Stephen VanHorn - HE

#### Dekalb County

Richard Cook - HE  
Christopher Deselms - HE

#### Linn County

Valerie Montgomery - HE  
Derek Payne - HE

#### Nodaway County

Travis Davis - HE

Jonathan Mullock - HE

Jerry Sharr - HE

#### Ray County

Benjamin Olsen - HE

### **Southwest Region**

#### Barry County

Haley Schiesswohl - HE

#### Christian County

Travis Phipps - HE  
Paul Price - HE & BHE

#### Greene County

Richard Stenberg - HE

#### Hickory County

Jared Wallace - HE

#### Jasper County

Ace Pelham - HE

#### Lawrence County

Adam Crouch - HE & BHE  
Spencer Lynch - HE  
Richard Simpson - BHE

#### Newton County

William Lant - HE

#### Taney County

Julie Kocher - HE

### **St. Louis Region**

#### Franklin County

David Johnson - BHE  
Robert Triphahn - BHE  
Timothy Whitford - BHE

#### St. Charles County

John Blankenship - HE  
Charles Glotta, Jr. - HE  
Clay Miller - HE  
Jacob Riechers - HE  
Michael Thomas - HE

#### St. Louis County

Scott Bauer - HE  
Jeffrey Eisenhart - HE  
Tyler Naramore - HE

# NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

*Best effort to conserve and manage wildlife that the world has ever seen.*



- Wildlife is Held in Public Trust
- Eliminating Commerce in Dead Wildlife
- Allocating Wildlife Use Through Law
- Hunting Opportunity for All
- Wildlife May be Killed Only for Legitimate Reasons
- Wildlife is an International Resource
- Science is the Basis for Wildlife Policy

*"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt*